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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/084,471 05/22/98 MURPHY

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HM22/0821

EXAMINER

ZITOMER, S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1655

DATE MAILED:

08/21/01

20

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/084,471

Applicant(s)

MURPHY et al.

Examiner

Stephanie Zitomer

Art Unit

1655



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ONE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jun 1, 2001
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 61-86 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claims 61-86 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

- 18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
20) Other: _____

ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Application status

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on June 1, 2001 has been entered.

Election of species

2. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. The species are too numerous to iterate each one. The following are examples of the claimed species of nucleic acid molecule comprising a BRCA2 gene:

- A. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising exon 15 sequence with T at position corresponding to nucleotide 171 of SEQ ID NO:2 (claim 61(a));
- B. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising exon 15 sequence with T at position corresponding to nucleotide 173 of SEQ ID NO:2 (claim 61(a));
- C. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising exon 15 sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 (claim 61(c));
- D. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising exon 16 sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 (claim 61(c));
- E. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising C at position corresponding to nucleotide 1093 of SEQ ID NO:4 (claim 62);
- F. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising A at position corresponding to nucleotide 1342 of SEQ ID NO:4 (claims 62-71);
- G. BRCA2 nucleotide sequence comprising G at position corresponding to nucleotide 1593 of SEQ ID NO:4 (claims 62, 63).

3. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted. A "single disclosed species" is defined as a single nucleic acid molecule comprising a BRCA2 sequence with a single defined nucleotide position. Only claims drawn to the elected nucleic acid/nucleotide

position species and claims drawn to a nucleic acid encoding the amino acid residue corresponding to the elected nucleotide species will be examined.

4. By statute, “[i]f two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one application, the Commissioner may require the application to be restricted to one of the inventions.” 35 U.S.C. 121. Pursuant to this statute, the rules provide that “[i]f two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in a single application, the examiner in his action shall require the applicant . . . to elect that invention to which his claim shall be restricted.” 37 CFR 1.142(a). See also 37 CFR 1.141(a).

Nucleotide sequences encoding different proteins are structurally distinct chemical compounds and are unrelated to one another. These sequences are thus deemed to normally constitute independent and distinct inventions within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 121. Absent evidence to the contrary, each such nucleotide sequence is presumed to represent an independent and distinct invention, subject to a restriction requirement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121 and 37 CFR 1.141 *et seq.*.

5. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH SEQUENCE RULES

6. The reply filed June 1, 2001 is not fully responsive to the communication mailed December 1, 2000 for the reason(s) set forth on the attached Notice To Comply With The Sequence Rules or CRF Diskette Problem Report.

Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH** or **THIRTY (30) DAYS**, from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME LIMIT MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Application/Control Number: 09/084,471
Art Unit: 1655

Page 4

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephanie Zitomer whose telephone number is (703) 308-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, W. Gary Jones, can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The official fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242. The unofficial fax number is (703) 308-8724.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

S. Zitomer
Stephanie Zitomer, Ph.D.
August 20, 2001

STEPHANIE ZITOMER
PATENT EXAMINER